

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.
WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1863.

EVERY Subscriber on our list who may be indebted to us on the 30th day of June, inst., will have his paper discontinued. There will be no favoritism shown in this matter.

ANOTHER FIRE.—Another alarm of fire was given last night about 11 o'clock. On repairing to the place we discovered the kitchen and rear buildings on the lot belonging to Mr. JAMES DAWSON, east side of Third, between Chestnut and Mulberry Streets, on fire. The flames soon extended to the two story wood dwelling in front, and then to the buildings next North, occupied by T. WALKER, Esq., and owned by Rev. A. P. RAYMOND, thence to the stables of Mr. RAYMOND, next to adjoining. There was a light breeze from S. W. at the time the fire broke out, which veered round to nearly West shortly afterwards. The two first named residences, together with all the outbuildings of every description, including a negro house on the lot of Mr. RAYMOND's residence, were all entirely consumed. The contents of the buildings were all lost, including the stables, the large three story building was very much damaged by removing furniture, window blinds, mantle pieces, &c.

It is proper to say that the fire companies were on hand at the earliest possible moment, and they exerted themselves only in arresting the progress of the conflagration. They evidently saved Mr. RAYMOND's residence from destruction, and deserve the thanks of all for their efforts. We are here reminded of the beneficial results of having cisterns at different points where the river cannot be reached. Had it not been for the various cisterns in the neighborhood, the engines would have been of little or no use, and there is no telling where the fire would have spread.

Capt. HANCOCK soon had his military company on the ground and properly distributed, to guard the property which had been removed from the burning buildings. The loss we are not able to state. We should suppose, though, that the two buildings and out houses, totally destroyed could not have cost less than \$7,000 to \$8,000 each. There is an insurance of \$2,000 on the house occupied by Mr. WALKER, and \$3,000 on the building occupied by Rev. A. P. RAYMOND, which will probably cover the injury done to the latter.

There was no insurance on the property of Mr. DAWSON. The losses from the fire were carried several squares outward and several buildings were at one time on fire, among them, Mr. DAWSON's on corner Fifth and Chestnut streets, which, however, soon put out by the neighbors.

How the fire originated is unknown. There were no persons occupying Mr. DAWSON's premises at the time, or for some months past.—*Daily Journal, yesterday.*

The Confederate Tax.

Some diversity of opinion has existed as to the proper construction to be placed upon the clause of the Confederate Tax Bill relative to Commission Merchants, and we have already given Mr. MEMMINGER's opinion on the same several days ago, but the following correspondence on the subject places the matter in a different light from what we had understood it. The correspondence will explain itself.

GREENSBORO, N. C., 20th May, 1863.

HON. C. G. MEMMINGER, Secretary of the Treasury, Richmond, Va.

DEAR SIR: In accordance with the new Confederate Tax Law, approved 24th April, we have been charging to the owners of goods sold by us as Commission Merchants, a tax of 2 per cent. on the gross sales, but our attention has been called to an expression in the 13th clause of the said law, which would seem to be intended to make an exception in favor of producers, by which sales of Cotton, Naval Stores, Flour, Salt, and other articles produced by those who raise or manufacture them are not to be subject to the charge. Among others with whom we have transacted, on the subject, one of our best lawyers (Mr. W. A. WALKER) is of the opinion that such is the proper construction of the law.

Will you do the favor to advise us as to your opinion in regard to this matter? The charge has been imposed on us, and we may be longer made in such cases, and that we may be liable to those who have already been subjected to it. Very respectfully,
DEBURET, BROWN & CO.

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God may yet come out victorious. The Yankee accounts are down to the 24th ult. only, and not so late as our own by two days, according to the last dispatch from Gen. Johnston, which contained news from Vicksburg to the 26th. We must wait patiently, and hope for the best.

LATER.—The news from Vicksburg by Northern scouts, received at Petersburg, is up to the 27th ult., one day later than yet received. It will be seen that the Federals acknowledge hard fighting and repeated repulses, though they claim to have forced our men back to their last entrenchments.

It will be seen that the Confederate steamers Alabama and Florida have been at work, they having destroyed many valuable cargoes, together with the ships containing them.

The Federal says that Gen. Lee is in motion, probably for Maryland. This may or may not be true. If true, we shall probably hear some interesting news from that quarter in a few days; probably before this week closes.—*Daily Journal, 1st inst.*

A SHIP OF HISTORY.

JUNE 1st, 1863. NINETY NINE YEARS AGO TO-DAY, ANDREW STUART, printer to the King, issued the first number of the "Cape Fear Gazette and Wilmington Advertiser." It was the first paper published in the town of Wilmington, and the second published in the State.

The first printing press was brought from Virginia in 1749, and the first paper printed with it in the town of Newbern, by JAMES DAVIS. Its title was "the Carolina Gazette," and its existence was fifteen years prior to that of the "Gazette & Advertiser."

Prices.

The reports of auction sales in the last papers from Charleston show a very desirable reduction in prices.—In some cases, goods sold for 50 per cent. less than at previous sales, and in but few instances did they hold former prices.

It is an axiom of political economy that prices depend upon production and supply. Now, if it be true, as some of our contemporaries say, that there are twenty-two cargoes in the city of Mobile, Alabama, and Wilmington unshipped, there is reason to hope "there is a good time coming."

It is slyly reported in the speculator's calendar that a single firm has lost \$100,000 by former purchases and sales. In our own local markets, in a small way, there has been some fall in prices. Flour has sold for \$5.25, but we bought two days ago at \$3. Butter has been at \$1.50, and now is at \$1.25. Cattle (as old roosters are called in sales) have sold for \$2, but now can be had at \$1.25 to \$1.50. Flour is at a normal price, and folks generally who have things to sell are getting uneasy.

We clip the above from the Columbia South Carolina of Saturday last. We think from looking over the list of prices of goods sold in Charleston on the 29th ult., that there has been a falling off in prices. Yet, we are informed that at the sale here on the same day, the prices ranged nearly, if not quite as high as at former sales, averaging about 33 per cent. more than at Charleston. We shall probably be able to publish the sales to-morrow, when all can judge for themselves.

We would like to see prices of all articles come down, but as yet, there has been little or no diminution in this market.—*Daily Journal, 1st inst.*

Vicksburg.

We have dates from Jackson as late as yesterday.—It will be seen that GRANT had made a demand for the surrender of the city within three days, to which demand Gen. PEMBERTON returned a reply that he would die in the trenches before he would surrender. This correspondence seems to have taken place on Thursday last.

On Saturday the enemy's gunboats were firing shot, we presume at the city, and our water defenses. The loss of the enemy thus far has been heavy, having reached 25 to 30,000. Our loss is reported to be light. We still hope that Gen. Johnston may be able to direct the destruction of the Federal army around the besieged Hill City, and thus re-open communication with the West. We shall look for further news with much impatience.

There are various reports about the streets, one that Gen. JOHNSTON had GRANT's army surrounded. How the report originated we do not know, neither do we know whether there is any foundation for it. We hope it may prove true.—*Daily Journal, 2d.*

An Incident—A Yankee Hero.

HEADQUARTERS 35th N. C. CAVALRY, NEAR FRANKLIN, VA.

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C. G. MEMMINGER, Secretary of the Treasury.

ROWAN ARTILLERY.—The following letter from Gen. D. H. Hill, complimenting this efficient battery we publish with pleasure. We are satisfied that any unit of our army or militia, composed of this brave and true, more ready to meet the enemy at any and every point. The Artillery has been ordered to reinforce Gen. Lee. May they all be spared to return to their homes unscathed, to enjoy the liberty and the blessings of a good government, for which they have so willingly exposed their lives.

April 16th, 1863.

CAPT. HILL.

Many thanks to you and your noble men for their efficient service. I am sure you were exposed to many dangers, but I am sure you would be glad to have with me.

May you have as happy and successful a career as you deserve to have.

Respectfully,
D. H. HILL, Major General.

The following account of a fight near Suffolk, Va., in which this company was engaged is taken from the correspondence of the Petersburg Express of the 9th inst.

Mobile Register telegraphs from Tullahoma that Gen. Beauregard is in full command of the Army of Tennessee. Gen. Johnston having been relieved from the department, and ordered to the command in Mississippi.

city for the use of the Government. The price fixed as compensation is 75 cents per pound. It is also stated that large quantities of sugar have been seized in Montgomery, Atlanta and Charleston.

these itinerant gentry are as good Yankees on the other side of the line as they are Southerners on this side.— Else, how can it be explained that they are allowed to pass unmolested over the borders of the enemy?

to its citizens, and so threatening to their own success in a

June 1, 1968.

content in which their all is at stake.
 H. K. BLUEGRWIN.
 E. V. M. CROFTON.
 County Board of Assessment for 19th Century.
 190-191.

make the necessary inquiry, or inform to the
Ladies will be visited at their course. All letters must con-
tain a ten cent stamp. The best of reference may be seen
at his room. Call early as his stay will be short.
May 29, 1883. 19033410.

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